

Your Name: *Amy Patterson*

Form for Evaluating Internet Information Resources

(NOTE: This form is not for evaluating productivity software/sites, simulation games/sites, or educational software/games/sites)

1. URL of Web page being evaluated: <http://www.mindtools.com/CommSkill/PublicSpeaking.htm>
 2. Primary use (students, teacher, parent, other,...): *Students*
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Questions 3-10 are about the site that is hosting your page.

3. Truncate the URL of the Web page. What is the domain name of the Web site?
http://www.mindtools.com/
 4. What is the name of Web site? *MindTools*
 5. What is the purpose or goal of this Web site? *"We're here to help you learn the practical, straightforward skills you need to excel in your career. (You can explore the menus on the left hand side to see our core skill areas.) Used together, these skills can help you become exceptionally effective, be a great manager and leader, be more successful in your career – and even become happier at work."*
 6. What organization or individual created this site? *James Manktelow:* "James founded Mind Tools in 1996. Today he leads a global team of experts who, together, help more than 15,000,000 people each year learn "the essential skills for an excellent career.""
 7. What affiliations/purpose/audience do they have that might create a built-in bias toward the information? What is that bias? (Note: every site has bias, you just have to be aware of what that bias is and be prepared to defend it or present information from other viewpoints.) Throughout the site they are encouraging people to buy their products, subscribe to their articles, give them money. They are less likely to direct people to other sites.
 8. What other types of organizations link to this site? (Using the Google search engine, type *link:* and the Web site address (example: *link:www.website.com*)) The other organizations linked to the site were recommending it as a good resource for academics and businesses. There was a link from McGraw-Hill, which I took as a good thing because I know McGraw-Hill is big in education. Motorola.
 9. Is there a way to provide feedback on the Web site and create an exchange with the author or Web site manager? There is a way to contact the creators of the site and various departments with a lot of different means of contact. There is also a frequently asked questions section.
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Questions 10-12 are about the specific page that has information for your project/unit:

10. Who is the author of the page and does that person have valid credentials to present this information (the creator of the site is not always the author of a page within the site)? The site has multiple authors, in the "About" page it talks about all the people behind MindTools and they all sounded very qualified. MindTools won the Queens Award For Enterprise in 2012.
11. What other references are cited for the information presented? I couldn't find any, but the site is pretty big so there might be some in there somewhere...

12. **How old is the material on the page? Is it current or outdated (copyright year is not the same as the last update)?** *2012 is the year it won the award, all the information seems up to date and is copyrighted for 2013*
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Final evaluation questions:

13. **Are there ads linked to the page or the site that might make this page inappropriate for your audience? Are the ads “sticky” or static? If there are no ads, how is this Web site paid for (where do they get their money)?** *There are some ads but not many, and the few ads there are seem to be related to the site, like other professional resources.*
14. **Is there other content on the site that appears affiliated with the information you’ve selected that might make this page inappropriate** (a Web site with great tutorials on how to make good movies with sections on how to make a documentary, a biography, an infomercial, etc. might also have a tutorial on making an inappropriate movie)? *Nope.*
15. **How helpful is this site/page to you? Does it have the information you need and feel confident using?** *I think this site is reliable and has good ideas that could be helpful for presentations, public speaking, and being a professional.*
16. **Describe how this Web site/page might be used in your project/unit:** *This could be used in my project/unit when it comes close to the time to present the project. Students could look at this website for homework and decide what tips they want to work on for their presentation.*
17. **Reviewing your answers above, is this a good page/site to use for your project/unit? Why or why not?** (NOTE: Some questions above may not apply to your page; there is no rule as to how many “correct” answers are needed for a page to be good or what constitutes a “bad” page. You just need to be able to justify your choices and the information above can provide good support.) *This is a good page for me to use. It is a good resource and is appropriate for students. It has well-known affiliates that have good reputations. The information it gives is believable and has good tips.*